GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3516
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2001
PRODUCTION OF FOODGRAINS
SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether inspite of increased production of foodgrains during the 90s, the growth rate in availability of foodgrains per capita has come down during the above period as compared to an increase during the 80s;

(b) if so, details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the position?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a)&(b): The per capita availability of foodgrains depends on a number of factors such as change in stocks in possession of traders, producers and consumers, imports, exports besides population and production. Since these factors (other than population) fluctuate from year to year, so does the per capita availability of foodgrains and hence its growth rate. The per capita availability of foodgrains is not strictly representative of actual level of consumption in the country. Its growth rate during the decade of 90s is −0.3% compared to 0.6% in the decades of 80s.

(c): To increase production and improve agriculture sector in different parts of the country, the Government has decided to switch over from the conventional Schematic approach to Macro Management mode for providing assistance to States.The scheme envisages integration of 27 schemes into the scheme for supplementation/complementation of States efforts through work plans which will give flexibility to States to address the specific problems faced by them, avoid overlapping in the contents of different schemes and aim for all-round development of agriculture.